



# Northern Great Plains Network

## Inventory and Monitoring Monthly Report

March 2006



**New Office:** The NGPN I&M Program (along with Dr. Amy Symstad of USGS-BRD and Dr. Bob Gitzen of the U. of Missouri) plans to move into a new office in Rapid City on or around April 19 (contingent on the paperwork moving quickly through people's inboxes). The new office is owned by the non-profit Foundation affiliated with the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. The new office address is 306 East St. Joseph Street; it is immediately north of the campus. (We do not yet have phone lines so during the transition period you may need to call cell phone numbers: for I&M staff you can call 605 431-9235.) The I&M Program worked with the General Services Administration to develop the 2-year lease with the Foundation. Shortly after moving into the site the I&M Program will resume discussions with the Foundation in regards to their building a new office on campus specifically for the I&M Program (a long-term arrangement that has been conceptually agreed to by all parties). The I&M Program is extremely grateful to Gerard Baker, Mike Pflaum and the rest of the Mt. Rushmore NMEM staff for hosting the program for the past several years.

**Positions Advertised:** The NGPN I&M Program is recruiting a GS-0404-07 Term Biological Technician position. The selected person(s) will assist in all facets of the I&M Program. The announcement is open until April 21 and can be found at [USAJobs](http://USAJobs). The I&M Program has also posted announcements for STEP hires for the summer at numerous colleges. The Program is looking for students pursuing natural resource and computer sciences degrees.

**Status of the 12 Baseline Inventories:** As you may recall, when the Inventory & Monitoring Initiative started several years back 12 inventories were identified (go to <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/inventory/index.cfm> to see the complete list). The NGPN I&M Program focused on completing the inventories for plants and vertebrates (i.e., the last 2 on the list). The others were conducted by the Washington Office. The WASO inventories with significant work yet to be completed are: Vegetation Maps, Soil Maps, Geologic Inventories, and Air Quality Related Values (a.k.a., AQRVs: this was originally called Location of Air Quality Monitoring Stations, but it has morphed into Air Quality Related Values [an assessment of resources that may be impacted by air quality]). The following table shows the status of these inventories for parks in the Northern Great Plains Network (except for Soil Maps; that information was not available at this time).

	Vegetation Maps	Geology			Air Quality Values
		Scoped	Map	Report	
Agate Fossil Beds NM	Done	2003	Done	In Work	FY07
Badlands NP	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07
Devils Tower NM	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07
Fort Laramie NHS	Done	2003	Done	Planned	FY07
Fort Union Trading Post NHS	In progress	Not Scoped	Planned	Planned	FY07
Jewel Cave NM	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07
Knife River Indian Villages NHS	In progress	Not Scoped	In Work	Planned	FY07
Missouri NRR	Not started	Not Scoped	Planned	Planned	FY07
Mt. Rushmore NMEM	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07
Niobrara NSR	Not started	Not Scoped	Planned	Planned	FY07
Scotts Bluff NM	Done	2003	Done	Planned	FY07
Theodore Roosevelt NP	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07
Wind Cave NP	Done	2002	Done	In Work	FY07

The vegetation maps for Fort Union Trading Post and Knife River Indian Villages are essentially done, but they are not yet posted.

The completed vegetation maps can be downloaded from <http://biology.usgs.gov/npsveg/>.

The completed geology maps can be downloaded from <http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/>.